BECOME THE BEST IN TOKYO
I'LL DO IT!! I'LL BE NUMBER ONE IN TOKYO!!
SPARKLE
SPARKLE
YEAH.
I APPLIED TO MOST OF THESE SHOGI TOURNAMENTS ALREADY.
将棋
将棋大
将棋まつり
*Book: A Shogi Primer S... Simple a Monkey Could Understand
*Flyers: All Smiles Shogi Tourney Exciting Shogi Festival

GAME 3: MY OWN PATH

TELL ME THAT ONCE YOU'RE A MAN WHOSE ATTENTION I SHOULD ACTUALLY BE CONCERNED ABOUT.
JUST MAYBE YOU OUGHT TO COVER UP BEFORE RUNNING DOWNSTAIRS
NOTHING, UH...
WHAT IS IT?
ゲホ
ゲホ
YOU'RE NOT GONNA GET GOOD BY FACING GRANDPAS AT THE REC CENTER.
Uh...
うきうき 将棋祭
WAIT... WHAT'S ALL THIS?

Flyers: Notice: 7th Annual Neighborhood Shogi Tournament
Casual Shogi Festival: Shogi Fair

*Sign: Entrance Ceremony

Chemistry Club:
Main Activities: Research, Presentations
Primary Goal: Get a paper into NATURAL magazine
Notes: Laid-back candidates only
Shogi Club:
Main Activities: Matches, Analysis, Match Observation
Primary Goal: Win at the City Tourney
Notes: Only experienced players, no beginners
Kendo Club:
Main Activities: Training, Practice Matches
Primary Goal: Make it to nationals
Notes: Those with 3.0 eyesight or better
THERE IT IS!!
SHOGI CLUB... SHOGI CLUB...
Oh! You look pretty tall! Baseball's a form of tag, right?
Baseball's a form of tag, right?
Are you a first year?
Are you a first year, perhaps?
Are you a first year, perhaps?
Are you a first year, perhaps

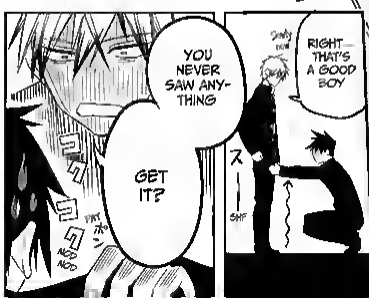
HEY, WATCH OUT.
WHOA
PUFF
...!!
SCARY !!
AND HE'S JUST A FIRST-YEAR?!
YEAH HE'S ALL THE TALK OF THE DORMS
THEY CALL HIM "BINDER MAN."
PUFF
B..
BINDER?
LOOKIT THAT HAIR.
DAWN TO DUSK. HE NEVER PUTS THAT THING DOWN.
AND HE'S GOT A WEIRD NAME I FORGET HIS LAST, BUT HIS FIRST..
IS IT A HIT LIST ?
IS HE AN ASSASSIN ?
..WAS DEFINITELY
!!
PUNF
WHOOSH

RINDO.
BAM
OH...
SORRY, I WASN'T WATCHING WHERE I WAS GOING!!
GLARE
I'LL PICK IT ALL UP FOR YOU!!
THIS LOOKS BAD.
...
Tch!

HOLD ON ..!!
YOU CAN'T REALLY MEAN THAT!!
?!
REALLY DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.

NO NEED?!
SHOCK
ガーン
SNIFF
NO NEED...
?!

...
PULL THEM UP
ドドドドド
RRMBBB


YOU NEVER SAW ANY-THING
GET IT?
コク
NOD NOD
RIGHT THAT'S A GOOD BOY
SNIFF
スー
SNIF
ポン
PAT

PANTS
ズボ
ッン

HE MUST LIKE THEM!
EAM
STRAW-BERRIES...
YOU SAW THEM TOO, RIGHT?
STRAW-BERRIES
TMP
ANYWAY SHOGI CLUB RIGHT
HE REALLY DIDN'T NEED THEM?
MESSY
BUT... WHAT'RE THESE PAPERS?
Shogi Club
HERE WE ARE
HM... HOLD ON...
IT SAYS NO BEGINNERS ALLOWED IN THE EXTRA NOTES
DOES THAT... MEAN ME?
...
Only experienced players...no beginners
IT SAID THAT ON THE OTHER FLIER TOO!
I'VE HAD SOME PRETTY INTENSE EXPERIENCES OVER THE PAST FEW DAYS...
Hm...
THAT MAKES ME EXPERIENCED.
PARDON ME!!
SLIDE

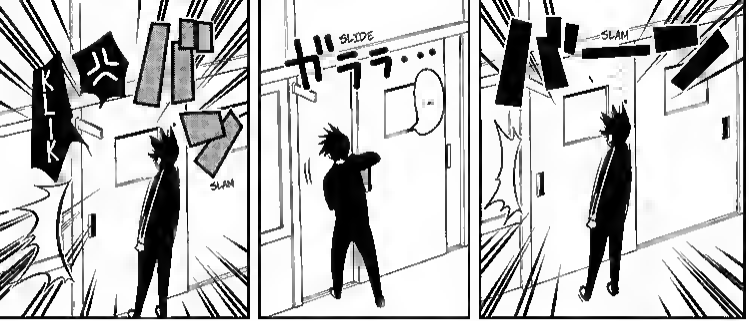
Pretty empty. No one in fact...
?
YOU HAVE BUSINESS WITH THE SHOGI CLUB?
I'M ITS ONE AND ONLY MEMBER...
SLIDE
ラ

I'LL KILL YOU!
Told you to forget about that.
MR. STRAW-BERRY.
OH...
GAH!
IT'S YOU, FROM BEFORE...

ALL OF THIS?!
DON'T NEED 'EM. ALREADY MEMORIZED IT ALL
SO WHY'RE YOU HERE?
SO YOU REALLY DON'T NEED THESE PAPERS?
TCH...
YOU FICKED THEM UP ANYWAY? HOW ANNOYING

I'D LIKE TO JOIN THE CLUB...
...AND COMPETE IN THE CITY TOURNEY.
HUH? YOU'RE THE ONLY MEMBER?
A FIRST-YEAR, LIKE ME?
I'VE BEEN USING THIS ROOM SINCE SPRING BREAK. I KIND OF KNOW THE PRINCIPAL.
COME ON, STATE YOUR BUSINESS ALREADY.
TCH... YOU WANT TO JOIN, OF ALL THINGS?
DAMMIT...
?!
FUTT
RRMBBB
LET ME SEE WHERE YOU STAND.
PLAY ME.

...
!
...
KLIK
O...
OKAY!!
GET OUT.
LIKE IT SAID IN THE PAMPHLET, NO BEGINNERS ALLOWED
I CAN'T BE DISTRACTED BY A WEAKLING LIKE YOU HANGING AROUND
HUH?! HUH?!
BUT I ONLY MADE ONE MOVE
AND THAT ONE MOVE WAS ENOUGH TO TELL!!
SHOVE
SHOVE
SHOVE
SHOVE


KLIK
バン
SLAM
SLIDE
ガララ…
SLAM
バーン

I MEAN, IT'S TRUE I REALLY AM A BEGINNER, BUT STILL
WHAT THE HECK? ACTING ALL HIGH AND MIGHTY WHEN WE'RE IN THE SAME GRADE!!
I didn't deserve that

I'VE GOT TO GET HIM TO LET ME IN THAT CLUB...
BUT... THE CITY TOURNEY!
...
WHAT'RE YOU DOING HERE?

NO, THAT MAKES SENSE.
AMONG THOSE WHO KNOW SHOGI, 90 PERCENT OF FIRST MOVES...
...ARE EITHER PAWN TO 2-6 OR PAWN TO 7-6
Lets lance charge ahead.
Opens path for bishop.
IS THAT RIGHT?!
(I THOUGHT HE WAS JUST MESSING WITH ME.)
ANY EXCEPTIONS ARE USUALLY PRETTY SLAPDASH
BUT WHAT WAS YOUR FIRST MOVE?

I COPIED KEISHI AND MOVED MY KING FORWARD...
Huh
THAT'S BECAUSE THE KING IS ALL HE HAD WITH HIS TEN-PIECE HANDICAP!!
YOU'RE SUCH A NOOB. TRY USING YOUR HEAD FOR ONCE.
IF YOU DON'T STUDY UP LEARN SOME STRATEGY AND JOSEKI SET PLAYS...
RIGHT I GUESS IT'S LIKE KAZUKI-SAN TOLD ME...
BUT FIRST I HAVE TO MASTER THOSE SHOGI PROBLEMS!!
YOU'RE STUB-BORN...
Don't limit yourself.
Well...
LISTEN. WHAT MATTERS MOST IS THAT THE GAME SUITS YOU.
JUST GO DOWN THE PATH YOU'VE CHOSEN FOR YOURSELF.

THE PATH...
I'VE CHOSEN
THANK YOU!!
I'M HEADING BACK TO SCHOOL ONE MORE TIME!!
OKAY...
NOT SURE WHY, THOUGH
OH, CAN YOU PUT MY BAG IN THE LIVING ROOM?
SURE
WHAT A FUNNY GUY.
おおおお
GNNNNK
MY WHOLE LIFE, I'VE BEEN TAKING WHAT PEOPLE TELL ME...
...AT FACE VALUE.
AND THAT'S WHY I'VE FAILED.
I WON'T GET PUSHED AROUND ANY-MORE.
STARTING NOW...

I THOUGHT I HEARD SHINOBU-CHAN'S VOICE
WEL-COME BACK. HM?
HE WENT TO TACKLE THE SPRINGTIME OF YOUTH

OH!
ARE THOSE SHOGI RECORDS?
HUH?

HEH HEH HEH...

KLIK
WHO COULD THESE BELONG TO...?

WHOA, AND ALL FROM THE SAME MATCH
THEY WERE IN SHINOBU'S BAG?

I'LL CARVE MY OWN PATH AND MOVE FORWARD !!

SQUISH
WHOAAAA ?!
YOU LEFT ONE OF THESE HIGH WINDOWS OPEN.
(SHOGI PROBLEMS STUFFED IN POCKETS)
FLAP
FLAP
I CAME HERE TO DO WHAT I WANT.
THINKING I SOMEHOW NEEDED YOUR PERMISSION WAS A MISTAKE.
WHAT'RE YOU THINKING ?!
Get out.
I'M GOING TO START MY OWN SHOGI CLUB HERE TOO!
3-Step Shogi Handbook
HUH?! SOMETHING WRONG WITH YOUR HEAD, KID?!
WHOOSH
WE'RE BOTH FIRST-YEARS I HAVE EVERY RIGHT TO BE HERE!!
I'M BEING SO SHAME LESS!

WHY DO YOU WANT TO ENTER IT SO BAD...?
BUT THE TOURNA-MENT?
I CAN ACKNOWL-EDGE YOUR TENACITY, AT LEAST...

YOU SUCK.
I'm one beginner you will welcome
SO YOU'RE GOING TO LET ME STAY HERE.

I'M AIMING TO BECOME A PRO!!
TO TEST MY SKILLS.

AH!!

POW
パコーン

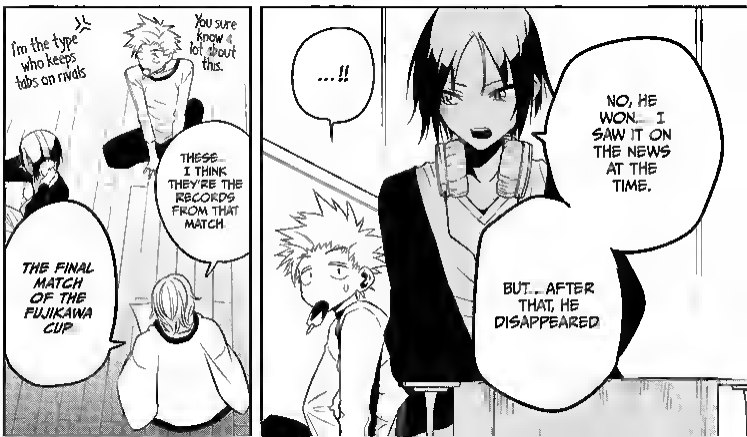
DO YOU... EVEN UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU'RE SAYING?!
YES
NO. I PROMISE YOU, YOU DON'T!! BECOMING A PRO, WELL, IT'S...
3 Step

So that's the answer!
I SHOULDN'T HAVE PROMOTED THAT ONE...
LISTEN! TO!! ME!!!

RINDO... FUJIKAWA?
...WHO SMILES WHILE PLAYING...
BESIDES HIM, THIS IS THE FIRST GUY I'VE MET...
Crap.
. . !!
IN A WORLD WHERE WINNING'S ALL THAT MATTERS
MAYBE I'VE BEEN IM-MERSED IN IT FOR TOO LONG.

HE WAS NO OLDER THAN ME...BUT ALREADY CRAZY STRONG
I PLAYED HIM ONCE, AS A KID...
Also, conceited...
HE'S THE GRANDSON OF THE FORMER MEIJIN, RIGHT?
DIFFERENT GENERATION, HUH?
YOU NEVER HEARD OF HIM, GINGA-SAN?!
Note: Meijin is one of the most prestigious titles in professional shogi

OH.
SO I GUESS HE QUIT AFTER FAILING TO WIN THAT ONE?
A TOURNAMENT NAMED AFTER HIS OWN GRANDPA?
...
You have to be 15 to enter that one
YES... HE SAID HE'D JOIN THE SHOUREI ASSOCIATION AFTER WINNING THE FUJIKAWA CUP
HE'S LOOKING TO GO PRO, RIGHT??


I'm the type who keeps tabs on rivals
You sure know a lot about this.
THESE... I THINK THEY'RE THE RECORDS FROM THAT MATCH
THE FINAL MATCH OF THE FUJIKAWA CUP
...!!
NO, HE WON... I SAW IT ON THE NEWS AT THE TIME.
BUT... AFTER THAT, HE DISAPPEARED

WHAT AN INCREDIBLE MATCH...
LOOK. AOBA-KUN'S FINAL MOVE WAS...
BISHOP TO 3-7.
HE WAS FACING... AOBA YURIMINE.
?
DON'T KNOW HIM.
...
BUT IMMEDIATELY AFTER, AOBA-KUN RESIGNED...
...AND FUJIKAWA-KUN WON.
WOW
THIS WAS A MATCH BETWEEN MIDDLE SCHOOLERS—?
BUT WITH THIS ONE BOLD MOVE IT LOOKED LIKE AOBA-KUN WOULD COUNTER-ATTACK.
FUJIKAWA-KUN HAD BEEN ATTACKING RELENTLESSLY UP UNTIL THEN.
SEARCHING FOR FUJIKAWA'S HIDDEN ROUTE TO VICTORY.
THE OWNER OF THESE RECORDS... HAS BEEN SEARCHING THIS WHOLE TIME.
I CAN'T SAY, BUT...
WHAT COULD HAVE HAPPENED ??
Text : Rindo Fujikawa wins

TINGLE
...AOBA MOVED HIS BISHOP TO 3-7...
THAT'S WHEN
BADUM
STARE
HOW LONG'S HE BEEN WATCHING?!
YOU'RE PLAYING AGAINST YOURSELF?
YOU MUST BE GOOD
BADUM
GAH, NO. I'M JUST SIMULATING A.
I'M REFLECTING ON A PAST MATCH. AND YOU'RE IN MY WAY!!
GRR
!!
JOLT
HM... YOU KEEP STOPPING RIGHT HERE, BUT...
..IF IT WERE ME...
!!
GET YOUR NOVICE HANDS OFF A MY

HM...
HE'S A REAL NOOB, SO IT'S PRETTY TEDIOUS
CAN'T SING HIS PRAISES MUCH, ON THE WHOLE, BUT...
...IN THE ENDGAME, IT'S LIKE A SWITCH FLIPS
BY THE WAY...
HOW'S SHINOBU-CHAN'S SHOGI GAME COMING ALONG?
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO BANNED HIM FROM PLAYING
...INSIDE OF HIM.
AND AT THAT INSTANT IT BECOMES A KING-KILLING GAME.
•Piece: Bishop
IT'S ONLY FOR A MOMENT, BUT..
I GET CHILLS, LIKE I'M UP AGAINST A REAL PRO.

FLASH
IT'S LIKE...
"OH. THIS GUY CAN SEE THE CHECKMATE."

WHO IS THIS GUY...?!
HOW ABOUT THAT?!
BISHOP TO 3-7?!
HOW'D THIS GUY KNOW AOBA'S MOVE...?
HE READ THE RECORDS? NO, IT DOESN'T SEEM LIKE THAT...
WHAT?!
PLAY ME.
I'LL SEE WHAT YOU'VE GOT, THIS TIME.
YOU..
YOU WANNA ENTER THE TOURNAMENT?

SJ THAT'S THE END OF THIS JUMP START RUN. DON'T FORGET TO FILL OUT THE WEEKLY SURVEY!